

New and Valuable

TO THE

Medical Profession



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NEW AND VALUABLE APPARATUS

FOR

VAPOR BATHS.

Portable, and easily adapted to every Private Dwelling.

SPECIALLY EFFICACIOUS

FOR THE RELIEF AND CURE OF PULMONARY COMPLAINTS,
MALARIA, SKIN DISEASES, RHEUMATISM, CROUP,
DIPHTHERIA, SCARLET FEVER, &c.

MANUFACTURED BY THE

Portable Hygienic Vapor and Disinfecter Company,
Office, 40 Spruce Street.

EXHIBITION AND SALESROOM, 1238 BROADWAY.

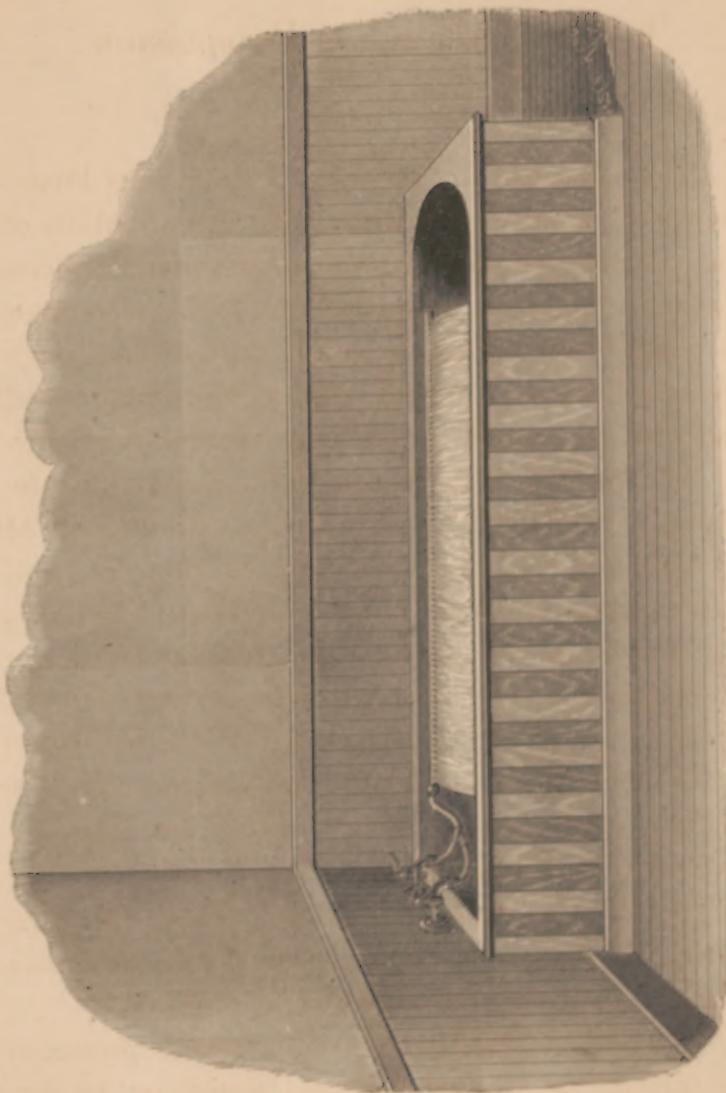
Corner 31st Street, under Grand Hotel,

NEW YORK CITY.



To the Medical Profession.

Fig. 1.



TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The PORTABLE HYGIENIC VAPOR AND DISINFECTOR COMPANY respectfully calls the attention of the medical profession to their apparatus and devices, by means whereof vapor or spray baths, medicated or simple, may be taken within the walls of one's own dwelling, at a trifling cost, without discomfort, and with the most beneficial and satisfactory results.

The bathing device consists of a portable, nickel-plated, perforated tube, running almost the length of the bath-tub, and connected with the hot and cold-water faucets by means of an improved coupling device and by rubber tubing. The temperature of the water can be gauged at any degree of heat, and the shower, needle, spray and medicated baths may be taken in combination, or separate, as required.

The medicated or mineral baths are taken in combination with the medical cups which are connected with the metallic tube. There are two cups —one of glass which contain the fluids; the other in metal for solid substances, when required.

The ordinary spray or needle bath is produced by turning on the hot or cold water, or by letting the hot and cold water run together. (See Fig. I.)

Fig. 2.



Vapor or Russian baths can be taken in the bathroom, outside of the bath-tub. The apparatus is the same as that of the ordinary spray bath, except that hot water only is used.

Vapor or Russian baths can also be taken within the tub. This is done by closing the stopper in the spray-tube, which will allow only the small end of the spray-tube to receive the water. An adjustable sliding-chair is furnished for that purpose; by its means the bather is only reached by the vapor, his feet resting upon a stool, above the hot water. The tub has a covering, and the bather is protected from inhaling vapor by a close fitting cape, which prevents the vapor from reaching his head, as illustrated in Fig. 2, so that only the head of the bather need be exposed to the air and freed from the action of the vapor. A tepid or cold spray should be taken after the bath.

This description is amply sufficient to demonstrate the superior advantages of this invention. Of remarkable simplicity, it solves the important medical problem of economy and hygiene, in thus enabling any person to take, in an ordinary bath-tub, without any complicated and bulky apparatus, or need of help, nurse, etc., the simple showers (warm or cold), and the medicated or perfumed sprays. These are regulated either in strength or intensity by the simple action of a tap.

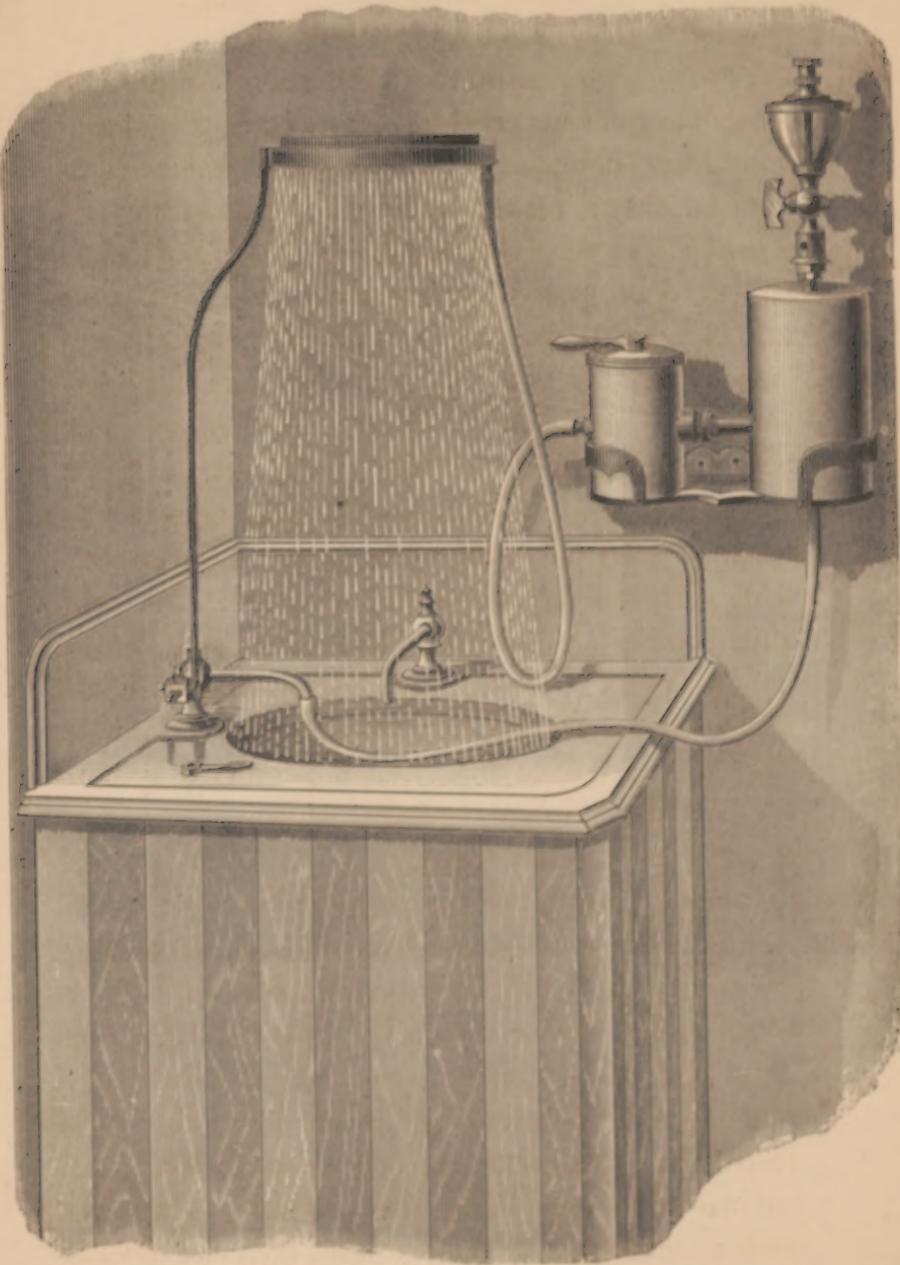


Fig. 3.

There is no occasion to dwell upon the physiological importance of keeping the cutaneous tissues in a healthy condition. The epidermis is formed of numerous small glands, generating the aqueous and sebaceous secretions which expel the carbonic acid, and produce gradual perspiration. These functions can be actively and safely performed only through strict cleanliness. It is a well-known fact that warm and, more especially, cold sprays invigorate the body by determining a tonic and healthy reaction.

Besides these advantages, the apparatus may be used for toilet purposes. The spray can be charged with perfumes by introducing into either recipient any favorite fragrance. However, the principal object of the apparatus is more calculated for the benefits to be derived from therapeutical treatment. The application of this system permits a gradual addition into the water of any medicinal ingredient at any desired temperature.

Consequently, a person may, in his own house, at any time of the year, derive all the advantages resulting from the various mineral baths, which heretofore could only be obtained at the natural spring. The sulphurous, alkaline, arsenical, mercurial baths, etc., can readily be produced by the addition of those respective substances chemically compounded. Thus, cutaneous diseases of the most refractory character, such as scrofula, eczema, psoriasis, etc., and diseases of the respiratory organs, ganglionic obstructions,



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and generally all the affections resulting from the impurity of the blood, can be treated at home.

The spray is not, as such, the sole valuable feature of the apparatus, as it can also be made to act on the atmosphere of a room, to which it furnishes a certain quantity of vapor, simple or medicated. The vapor produced by the flow and by the infinite divisions of the hot water, can, in a few minutes, be made to saturate the atmosphere of the room, so that the best Russian bath may be obtained at home without the slightest trouble or inconvenience, with the same effect as in regular bathing establishments. This makes away with the danger of taking cold, which results frequently from exposure to the air after having taken these baths outside. (See Fig. 4.) Moreover, if, instead of permitting the steam to permeate the atmosphere of the room, it is concentrated within the bath-tub under the rubber covering, which accompanies the apparatus, a steam bath is obtained, either simple or medicated, as may be required, in which the effects are more readily realized. (See Fig. 2.)

A bath of this nature will be found very efficient in the treatment of several diseases, such as rheumatism (acute or chronic), gout, cold, catarrh, dropsy, obesity, etc., etc.

For Bright's disease, one of the most insidious, as well as prevalent of fatal diseases, where inability of the kidneys to properly eliminate the poisonous



Fig. 5.

substances from the body, is one of the immediate causes of death; the action of these baths in keeping the great eliminating powers of the skin in healthy action is being recognized by the profession as a most useful adjunct to medical treatment.

INHALING APPARATUS.

The inhaling apparatus, as shown in illustration (Figs. 3 and 5), can be put in operation in any room where there is a wash-basin connected with the hot water. Inhalation is often used with great advantage in all bronchial affections, and has always given very satisfactory results.

The same may be said of *diphtheria* and croup, both of which make such terrible ravages among children; these afflictions can be easily controlled by inhaling the medicated vapor, as shown in Fig. 4.

The disinfection of houses, by means of the medicated vapor, can be easily accomplished; and many contagious diseases, arising from poisonous germs in the air, such as *scarlatina*, etc., can be avoided, and all kinds of fever and malaria easily checked by the free use of carbolic acid or other strong disinfectants.

In our modern houses, the closet and bath accommodations are generally to be found in the same room. The apparatus as a means for readily overcoming any unpleasant or injurious emanations from the former, will be found very convenient and efficacious, at a minimum cost of time and material.

Besides these hygienic and therapeutical applications, the apparatus can also become an instrument of domestic economy, as it may be utilized for the cultivation of plants in hot-houses. A permeating dampness can be produced in a few minutes.

When ordering an apparatus be particular to state whether it is to be attached to a single, double-threaded, or smooth faucet.

(From the *New York Herald*, Friday, November 17, 1882.)

A VERY YOUNG INVENTOR.

HIS SIMPLE CONTRIVANCE FOR SETTING UP A COMPLETE BATHING ESTABLISHMENT IN EVERY DWELLING.

Given a room set apart for bathing purposes in every house and provided with water, cold and hot, and it might seem that a contrivance to enjoy the bath in various ways would be invented. This might be expected more particularly in a climate like this, with its Summer heats, making bathing as much a comfort and luxury as it is in the East, and with cold Winters begetting bronchial and other troubles, for which vapor and medicated baths are used. True, the number of public establishments for these purposes has increased, but no attempt seems to have been made to improve upon the simple tubs with faucets, which were put into private houses after Croton was introduced. A lad of sixteen, belonging to the Cooper Institute class in mechanical drawing, has now fashioned a contrivance as ingenious as it is simple, and by means of which one can take at home, in an ordinary bathroom, Russian or spray or vapor baths, or medicated baths of any kind. This young inventor's apparatus to secure spray or vapor is simply a metal pipe as big as one's finger, running along one side of the tub at the top, and perforated with minute holes, arranged to throw the spray upon the bather, the temperature of the water being regulated at will through the hot and cold water faucets. When hot water is shot through the hundreds of minute holes, vapor either fills the room in a minute, or by means of a rubber cloth is confined to the tub, and the bather, seated, with his head free in the air, subjects his body to the action of the steam. To secure medicated baths, the boy has invented two little cups of peculiar pattern, which can be set upon a shelf and are connected with the metal spray pipe by means of rubber tubes. A tablespoonful of any liquid, from cologne water to carbolic acid, placed in one

cup is minutely subdivided and permeates the vapor or spray in a few seconds. Solids, like sulphur, or other medical substances, are placed in the other cup, which is of metal, and they are at once dissolved and injected into spray or vapor in like manner.

One apparatus has been manufactured and placed for trial in the French Hospital in this city, where it is being experimented with in the treatment of rheumatism and acute nervous diseases by spray baths permeated with drugs. The same contrivance being attached with rubber tubes to the faucets of a washbowl serves to produce vapor impregnated with chamomile or other herbs for inhalation in cases of bronchial affections. A number of physicians have called to see the young inventor, and all commend the invention, but express surprise that something of the kind was not produced long ago.



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